# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1128
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
DENTAL DISEASES AMONG CHILDREN
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**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether 90 per cent of children in the country are suffering from dental diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any decision to start a scheme for spreading awareness and providing treatment in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith dentist-patient ratio in the country?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. As per the Multicentric Oral Health Survey report 2007 (WHO-GOI Collaborative Programme), about 49% of 12 year olds and 54% of 15 year old children were found to be suffering from Dental caries in seven sites studied. However, the gum diseases were prevalent in 45% of children in both the age groups.

(c) & (d): Health awareness and education campaign to educated the public about oral hygiene and service component form a part of the National Health Programme. The dentist population ratio as per Dental Council of India records as on 31.8.2007 is 1: 2943 for the whole country.